

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 04577 212110Z

11

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 DRC-01 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 /169 W

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R 212025Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3905

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG VE

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENT OF ORINOCO PETROLEUM BELT

REF: CARACAS A-97, MAY 2, 1974

1. VENEZUELA DRILLED 16 STRATIGRAPHIC WELLS LAST YEAR AND WILL DRILL 32 MORE THIS YEAR AS PART OF A PROGRAM WITH CERTAIN QUANTITIES AND TYPES OF OIL IN ORINOCO PETROLEUM BELT. GOVERNMENT ALSO HOPES TO PROCEED WITH CONSTRUCTION OF AN EXPERIMENTAL REFINERY (REFAIR) THAT WOULD TEST TECHNIQUE FOR PROCESSING HEAVY OIL FROM ORINOCO BELT.

2. MENE GRANDE PRESIDENT LEWIS RAMSEY, IN A DISCUSSION COVERING A NUMBER OF OTHER TOPICS, EXPRESSED VIEW THAT VENEZUELA SHOULD POSTPONE BUILDING ANY KIND OF REFINERY OR UPGRADING FACILITY FOR TAR BELT OIL UNTIL IT FINDS OUT PRECISELY WHAT KINDS OF OIL IT HAS IN ORINOCO BELT WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE PROCESSED. IN HIS OPINION, VENEZUELA SHOULD PROCEED MUCH MORE RAPIDLY TO COMPLETE A PROGRAM OF 500 TEST WELLS IN ORINOCO BELT WHICH WOULD PROVIDE GOVERNMENT WITH ALL INFORMATION NEEDED. SUCH A PROGRAM HE ESTIMATED COULD BE

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ACCOMPLISHED BY EIGHT DRILLING RIGS WORKING FOR TWO YEARS.

MCCLINTOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRILLING, CONSTRUCTION, REFINERIES, OIL FIELDS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Film Number: D740127-0016
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <10 JAN 2003 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

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30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEVELOPMENT OF ORINOCO PETROLEUM BELT
TAGS: ENRG, VE, (RAMSEY, LEWIS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005